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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

**INFORMATION REPORT**

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COUNTRY

East Germany

DATE DISTR. 26 August 1952

SUBJECT

Werk fuer Fernmeldewesen, Berlin-Oberschoeneweide

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(LISTED BELOW)

PLACE ACQUIRED

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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1. Since the Werk für Fernmeldewesen HF, (SAG Kabel) in Berlin-Oberschoeneweide became a state-owned enterprise (VEB) on 1 May 1952, there has been a noticeable absence of Soviet production. Just before the transfer, on 29 and 30 April 1952, large quantities of finished products were shipped out of the works to the Soviet Union in trucks. The goods were packed in cases 1 x 1 x 3 meters in size, of which 10 were counted. It is assumed that the cases contained tubes of various kinds. The cases bore inscriptions in Russian. Within the last few days, Soviet vehicles have again loaded similar cases.
2. In the Knorr-Bremse plant, the moving of all divisions of the plant not directly concerned with tube production from Oberschoeneweide to Rummelsburg (sic), has been in process since 1 May 1952. The following manufacturing departments have been moved to Rummelsburg so far: instruments, coil winding, relay building. The machine tool department with its various sections (milling, planing, grinding) stays at Oberschoeneweide for the present.
3. Another result of the transfer to state ownership is a shortage of materials, which has become especially noticeable since the middle of May. There is an especial shortage of copper-nickel wrapped wire used for grid posts on which the grid wire is wound. As a result, the grid-winding department is only 30 percent busy; the skilled workers left unoccupied have been employed in cleaning up, removing debris, and the like; some of them have taken vacations due them. All the other divisions concerned with making tube parts are working full time except the assembly division, which has had to cut down on account of a shortage of grids. The third shift put on in the autumn of 1951 has been done away with.

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4. The necessary machinery for pressing the newly wound coil pins (Wickeldorne) has not been installed yet for all types of tubes, therefore, as formerly, they are shaped by hand.
5. The production of grids has dropped to about 20 percent of the quota, which is 25,000 pieces daily.
6. The cathode division has a very high percentage of rejections, as high as 95 percent at one time according to a statement by one of the directors at a production meeting. The reason given for this is the brittleness of the sheet nickel available.
7. Since 20 May 1952, tests have been conducted on two new types of tubes, "6B7C" and "6B9M." As yet, information is not available on the results.
8. The reason for delaying the equipping of the workshops with cold presses is said to be a lack of funds. These presses are expensive to manufacture and the plant apparently does not have the money at its disposal at present.
9. A delegation from the HF-Werk visited the Sachsenwerk at Radeburg. The purpose of the visit was to become acquainted with the plant that further treated the products of HF-Werk. The delegation consisted of officials of the Socialist Unity Party (SED) and the Free German Labor Union (FDGB). Officials of the two plants have adopted a three-point program consisting of:
  - a. Methods for improving production.
  - b. Cultural mass measures.
  - c. Party organization work.

As a result of this conference, the HF-Werk is to install the so-called high speed working methods initiated by Erich Wirth, who is employed at the Sachsenwerk. The novelty consists essentially in overhauling the workshop machine park and creating so-called "Komplex Brigaden" to reduce to a minimum the time required for changing the clamping chucks and replacing the tools. At the present time the officials are looking for anyone who achieves a "breakthrough" with this new working method. The head of the Radeburg delegation was one Schmolinski (fnu).

10. The present director of the HF-Werk is Hans Müller. In 1949 Müller, denounced a certain Willi Drescher and caused his arrest. Müller is between 40 and 45 years old, about 1.65 meters tall, thick-set, with a somewhat flat nose. He has blue eyes and black hair.

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